



Bon Air JCC COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions

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In an effort to keep you informed, please find below some FAQs about the COVID-19 Pandemic. We welcome you to submit additional questions to greg.davy@djv.virginia.gov if you do not find answers here.

Below are the questions answered in this FAQ. Click the question for easy navigation to that section.

How is DJJ preventing COVID-19 from being introduced into Bon Air JCC?

How is social distancing accomplished in housing units at Bon Air JCC?

What is DJJ's plan if a resident or staff member becomes infected with COVID-19?

Is DJJ talking to parents and looking at medical records to see which residents have medical conditions that put them at higher risk?

Are there daily recreational opportunities for residents? Are sports such as basketball safe?

What are the educational plans for the residents at Bon Air?

How do I communicate with my child?

What resources can I use to become more informed about COVID-19?

How is DJJ preventing COVID-19 from being introduced into Bon Air JCC?

DJJ has had to make difficult decisions during this new experience. We are doing our best to ensure the safety of our residents and staff in three main ways:

Social Distancing:

- Canceled visitations until further notice.
- No new youth admitted to Bon Air JCC through April 1 (DJJ will reassess leading up to April 1).

Screening:

- Everyone is screened in the lobby before entering the facility.
- Anyone who fails the screening may not enter.
- Residents are screened regularly.

Hygiene and Cleaning:

- Everyone entering the building must wash and sanitize their hands in the lobby.
- Staff are teaching residents proper hand-washing techniques.
- Residents and staff are washing hands frequently.
- Currently undergoing campus deep clean and increased daily cleaning efforts.

How is social distancing accomplished in housing units at Bon Air JCC?

As we learn more about COVID-19 and receive new guidance from health officials, we consistently adapt our practices to meet those guidelines. These are the steps we have taken so far:

Waking Hours:

- Housing units do not intermingle with other housing units at any time.
- We have suspended large group activities or meetings for staff and residents.
- During unit activities, unit staff work to ensure a minimum safe distance between residents at all times (i.e., leaving seats between residents while seated at tables, standing apart during other group activities, etc.).

Sleeping Hours:

- Many residents have their own rooms.
- Of the few shared rooms, many are designed for four (4) or more residents, leaving ample room for distancing.
- No more than two residents share a room at any time with the exception of dormitory style areas.

What is DJJ's plan if a resident or staff member becomes infected with COVID-19?

DJJ is following guidelines from the CDC, Virginia Department of Health, and our medical professionals on staff, and we have determined that:

Staff:

- Will be treated by their medical provider.
- Will not be allowed to come back to work until a doctor approves.

Residents:

- Will be taken to the Central Infirmary or alternate medical unit on campus.
- Will continue to be cared for by our Chief Physician and other licensed medical staff.
- Will be transported to emergency care or hospital facilities if necessary.

Is DJJ talking to parents and looking at medical records to see which residents have medical conditions that put them at higher risk?

DJJ's medical staff know each resident's medical history and current conditions. Staff are keeping in mind all medical information as we work through the pandemic.

Are there daily recreational opportunities for residents? Are sports such as basketball safe?

We consistently seek guidance from the CDC, Virginia Department of Health, our Chief Physician, and other licensed medical staff. Here is what we have learned from them so far:

- Currently, youth are encouraged to participate in as much outdoor activity as possible.
- There is no extra risk when residents participate with members of their housing unit.
- We will continue to explore other opportunities for physical exercise.

What are the educational plans for the residents at Bon Air?

All schools across the state began planning for potential school closings well in advance, and the Virginia Department of Education provided guidance on ways to address continued education.

Current Learning Packets:

- Packets were created by teachers at the Yvonne B Miller School and given to unit staff.
- Packets are designed to keep students engaged in structured learning.
- Assignments consist of practice activities to address skill gaps.
- Structured educational time will be determined by unit staff.

Grading (based on Free and Appropriate Education (FAPE) as defined by United States Education Department and the Office of Special Education Programs):

- These initial packets will not be graded.
- Teachers will award Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support program (PBIS) points based on completion and quality of work.
- Without direct teacher support for English Language Learners and students with disabilities, grading violates FAPE.

Future Education:

- Teachers at Yvonne B Miller are still working on educational materials.
- Packets will be updated regularly.
- We will adhere to any new guidance from the Virginia Department of Education.

How do I communicate with my child?

DJJ will make every effort for family members to have continued contact with residents during this time. Please contact your youth's juvenile correctional counselor to discuss the below options for contacting your youth:

Phone:

- To assist phone accessibility, any staff on the unit is now able to facilitate a monitored phone call.
- We are working to ensure that residents will have unlimited Global Tel-Link (GTL) calls per week regardless of phase level.
- We are exploring ways to assist with GTL call costs during the pandemic.

Video:

- In some scenarios, video conferencing sessions can be facilitated through the Parole/Probation Officer (PO) using VIA 3.
- Video visitation options include FaceTime and Google Meets based on accessibility.
- Sessions must be pre-scheduled through your child's PO, Counselor, or Community Coordinator.

Letters:

- We are encouraging residents to write more letters during this time.
- You may also write letters to your child.
- Please continue to adhere to our policies regarding resident mail.

What resources can I use to become more informed about COVID-19?

The Virginia Department of Health

- VDH is the best resource for your questions.
- It is constantly updated with new information.
- Visit www.vdh.virginia.gov

The Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice

- Visit www.djj.virginia.gov
- Check “DJJ’s COVID-19 Resources for Parents and Stakeholders.”